



SCHOOL HOURS

08:50 am - Students Enter
 09:00 am - Classes Begin
 10:35 am - Morning Recess
 11:45 am - 12:45 pm Lunch
 12:45 pm - Students May Enter
 02:20 pm - Afternoon Recess
 03:35 pm - Dismissal

NOTIFY IF ABSENT:

Home Room Teacher
thiessen.bev@bsd.ca
jugganaikloo.jenna@bsd.ca
 Call: 204-729-3957



Visit our school website for
 current information.

<https://www.bsd.ca/jrreid>

*This document is available in
 other formats upon request.

E-mail: jrreid@bsd.ca*



Chair: Samantha Smart
samvanmeer216@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE DEN

J.R. Reid School Newsletter

Issue: OCTOBER 2026



204-729-3955



813 26th Street



jrreid@bsd.ca



www.bsd.ca/jrreid



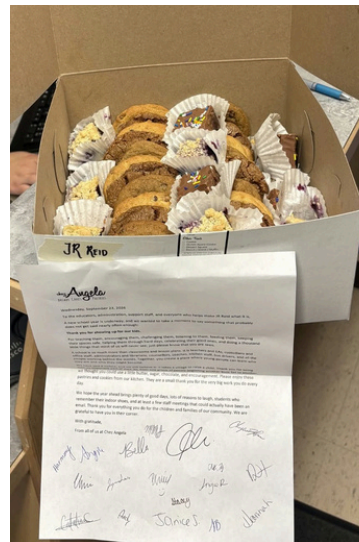
Absent Line:
 204-729-3957
 and/or e-mail



"THE DOT"

Announcement from School Staff

J.R. Reid students celebrated International Dot Day on September 18 by reading *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds and then colouring their own dots for our bulletin board. The story's message is that all students can be artists and that all art can be admired and is worthy of being displayed. All it took for the artist in the story to believe in their abilities was one teacher believing in their work!

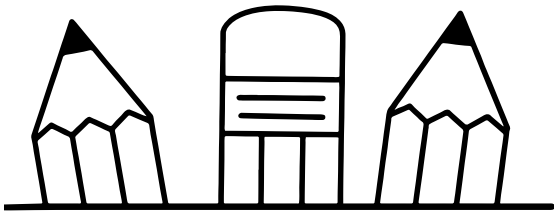


WELCOME BACK

Announcement from School Staff

The staff at J.R. Reid would like to thank Chez Angela for this delicious mid-week delivery to welcome us back to school. Chez Angela has always been a supporter of schools and we thank them!

Thank you also to all our families for the kind welcome-back message and baking drop off. We are so lucky to have such a caring community.



MULTI-AGE CLASSROOMS

Announcement from Suzanne Sullivan

At our recent Parent Council meeting, I was asked about multi-age classrooms—how they are determined and, most importantly, what they mean for student learning. To be honest, before coming to J.R. Reid, I did not have a clear understanding of how multi-age classrooms worked in a K–8 school. I am very thankful to have had the opportunity to learn more about them and experience their benefits firsthand.

One of the most common concerns parents have about multi-age classrooms is whether their child will receive instruction at the appropriate level and continue to meet the learning outcomes for their grade. The reality is that all classrooms are multi-level in terms of learning. Even in a traditional single-grade classroom, students learn at different rates, have different strengths and needs, and achieve outcomes at different times. Teachers plan and teach with these differences in mind, providing support and opportunities for every student to grow.

A multi-age classroom gives teachers another opportunity to meet those individual learning needs. Students who need additional time and practice may have the opportunity to revisit important outcomes, while those who are ready can be challenged with learning that extends beyond their grade-level outcomes. This flexibility allows teachers to meet students where they are and help them continue to move forward.

Another common misconception is that if a student stays with the same teacher for two consecutive years, they will simply repeat the same learning. While students may revisit some outcomes, they will not complete the same work again.

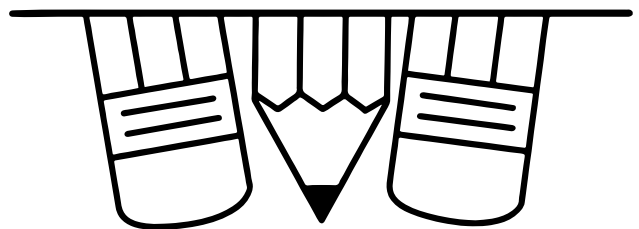
Teachers who have students for two consecutive years plan intentionally to build on previous learning, using different themes, activities, resources, and learning experiences to deepen students' understanding.

Having a student for more than one year also allows a teacher to develop a deeper understanding of that student's strengths, interests, and areas where additional support may be needed. These strong relationships can greatly benefit student learning.

When we complete class placements each year, our goal is always to create balanced classrooms that support the learning and well-being of all students. We begin by considering existing classroom groupings and teacher relationships, but we may make changes based on feedback from teachers, students, and families, as well as the needs of individual students and the overall balance of each classroom.

Multi-age classrooms provides our staff with greater flexibility when making these decisions. It allows us to consider academic needs, social dynamics, learning styles, and student behaviours when creating classroom groups, rather than relying solely on students' ages or grade levels.

Most importantly, our goal is always the same: to create classrooms where every student is known, supported, appropriately challenged, and given the opportunity to grow. Multi-age classrooms are one way we can continue working toward that goal.





**“Red leaves, gold leaves, twirl through the air.
They dance on the sidewalk and land everywhere!”**

SCHOOL ZONE REQUEST FOR 25TH STREET

Announcement from Samantha S.



Parent Council would like to let families know that we will be submitting a formal request to the City of Brandon and the Brandon School Division to install additional school zone signs and designated crosswalks on 25th Street.

This request comes in response to growing traffic concerns during arrival and dismissal times and aims to improve safety for students and families who walk, bike, or drive along this route.

What happens next?

- The request will be submitted through the school administration to the City of Brandon's Engineering and Traffic Safety teams.
- If approved, the City will assess the location and install appropriate signage and crosswalk markings in accordance with Manitoba's *Highway Traffic Act* and school zone guidelines.
- We will keep families updated as we receive responses and progress reports.

In the meantime, please continue to follow all existing school zone rules, watch for children crossing, and avoid making U-turns or stopping in no-stopping zones and staff parking areas.

If you have specific safety concerns, please share them with the school office so we can include them in our request.

Your input will help strengthen the request.

OUTDOOR VOLLEYBALL

Announcement from Parent Council



Great news for recess! Thanks to ongoing fundraising and the generous support of our school families, Parent Council has installed a new volleyball net on the school grounds. We hope it encourages active play, teamwork, and friendly matches during breaks and community events.

Students are reminded to use the equipment safely and respectfully. If you have ideas for future playground enhancements or would like to get involved, please contact Parent Council or join us at our next meeting.

SURVEY DRAW WINNER

Announcement from Parent Council



A huge thank you to everyone who completed our recent Parent Council survey! Your feedback will help shape this year's programs and fundraising efforts, with a focus on supporting classroom initiatives through in-person events and hot lunches.

And the winner of the fire pit is: **HEATHER F.** Congratulations! We'll be in touch to arrange pickup. If no response is received within two weeks, another name will be drawn.

Families who provided their contact information will also receive updates about events, volunteer opportunities, and ways to get involved.

Thank you for helping make J.R. Reid an even better place for our children!

This year, we plan to focus our fundraising efforts on supporting classroom initiatives through in-person events and hot lunches.



ON-LINE SAFETY PRESENTATION

Announcement from Suzanne Sullivan

This is an important conversation to have with our children.

It is never too early to discuss online safety. Phones, tablets, gaming systems, computers, and social media offer children information and connection, but can also expose them to content and situations they are not prepared to navigate alone.

The sooner we discuss online safety, responsible technology use, and access to the online world, the better prepared our children will be.

Already this school year, I have addressed a social media concern involving students in Grades 4–6. It made me wonder how many parents know whether their child has an online profile or accesses social media through an app, game, website, or other platform. Unfortunately, any child can encounter inappropriate or concerning content online.

I can share a personal example. When my daughter and her friends were younger, they tried a website they had heard about and unexpectedly encountered inappropriate content. Thankfully, they told an adult and received support. Their experience reminded me that we cannot know what we do not know.

I encourage you to learn about the apps, websites, games, and social media platforms your children use. Talk with them regularly about what they see and who they communicate with, and consider checking their devices.

This is not about invading their privacy; but helping them develop the insight, skills, and judgment needed to stay safe online.

Thankfully, there are many resources available to help families navigate this ever-changing world. One excellent resource is Val Caldwell, a speaker who visits schools to educate both students and parents about online safety and technology. Val will be presenting at **Meadows School from 6 till 8 pm on October 21st**. J.R. Reid parents have been invited to attend.

Our School Resource Officer, Constable Alex Plante, is also an excellent resource and support for families if you have questions or concerns.

As a school, we want our students to grow into responsible, informed, and strong global citizens. Part of that learning is understanding how to safely, respectfully, and responsibly use social media and technology. Thank you for partnering with us in helping our children navigate this part of their world.

Scan to view event flyer on Val Caldwell's Facebook page



SUPPORT STAFF APPRECIATION

Announcement from Suzanne Sullivan

J.R. Reid is very thankful for the wonderful support staff who keep our building running efficiently and our students safe, supported, and learning.

Thank you to our EAs—Angie Buydens, Sarah Ericson, Stephanie Evans, Nicole Hargreaves, Billie-Jo Madill-McKenzie, Lori McIvor, Emma Stephens, Kirby Campbell, and Morgan McAuley; our HSL, Bev Thiessen; our administrative assistant, Jenna Jugganaikloo; our custodian, Jody Luckins; and our CAs, Marlon Chambers and Mary Villaneuva.

We also appreciate our divisional support staff: Breigh O'Hara, McKenna Thiessen, Lindsay Nelson, and Kristen Zegers.



KNOW THE ZONE

Announcement from the Administration

As our school streets get busier each morning and afternoon, we're asking all drivers to help keep our kids safe by following these simple rules in the school zone:



- **Slow down** – The speed limit in school zones is 30 km/h between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday (September to June). Speeding in school zones can result in serious offence notices and licence suspensions.
- **Watch for crossing guards and safety patrollers** – Always stop when directed and give them your full attention.
- **Respect No Stopping / No Parking zones** – By-law Enforcement and Brandon Police Service actively monitor school zones. No Stopping zones mean no stopping at all, even to quickly drop off or pick up passengers. No Parking zones only allow temporary stopping while actively loading or unloading—these are not waiting areas.
- **No U-turns** – U-turns are prohibited in school zones and create dangerous situations for pedestrians and other drivers.
- **Don't obstruct traffic** – Stopping in the middle of the street to drop off children is unsafe and considered an obstruction under City of Brandon by-laws.
- **Bus Loading Zones (Located on 25th Street)** – Only buses are permitted to stop or park in these zones.
- **Staff Parking is a Reserved Parking lot** – Staff parking areas are for school staff only and are not to be used for drop-off or pick-up. Using these spaces creates dangerous blind spots for children and blocks staff from arriving on time for duties.
- **Accessible Parking** – The designated accessible parking space must remain clear at all times for individuals with mobility needs.

Enforcement: The Brandon Police Service By-law Enforcement unit conducts regular school zone deployments and checkpoints throughout the school year. In recent years, officers have issued hundreds of tickets during school zone enforcement operations, with fines ranging from \$60 to \$120+ for parking and stopping violations, and much higher penalties for serious speeding offences.

A few extra minutes and a little patience make a big difference. Let's work together to ensure every student arrives and leaves school safely each day.

If you have concerns about school zone safety or by-law compliance, please contact the Brandon Police Service non-emergency line at 204-729-2345.



Mystery Riddle:

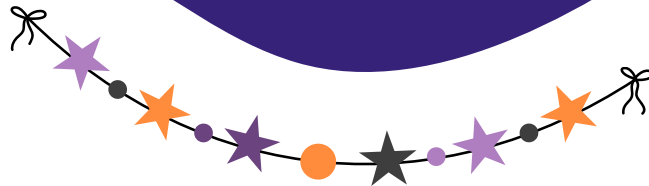
I hold thousands of worlds but never move an inch,
My doors are open, yet I'm not a shop or a bench.
Silence is golden within my walls,
But inside each book, adventure calls.
You can travel to Mars or dive in the sea,
All without leaving your seat—just borrow from me.
Barcodes on spines, due dates to keep,
Return me on time or the fees run deep.
I'm staffed by experts who know every tale,
From dragons to dinosaurs, science to sail.
What place am I?

Bring your answer to the office to win a prize
Deadline: October 16th



HALLOWEEN

Announcement from Suzanne Sullivan



Before we know it, Halloween will be upon us! For some, it is the best day of the year; for others, it makes our fear of clown masks resurface (that one might be personal). When choosing school costumes, students should avoid anything that may be too scary for our youngest learners. All replica weapons—including lightsabers—must stay at home. Students should also leave any costume pieces they are worried about damaging at home and save them for trick-or-treating.

We want students to express themselves and have fun in a safe and respectful way.

Teachers may love Halloween candy, but it is not the healthiest snack, so please send treats in lunchboxes in moderation.

Have fun and stay safe!



RIDDLE ANSWER:

Student's Name:

Class Teacher:





STUDENT SHOUT OUT

Announcement from Suzanne Sullivan

J.R. Reid student Daniel has been busy in the workshop with his dad!

Together, they have been creating Halloween jack-o'-lanterns for Daniel to sell.

Great job, Daniel!

We love your entrepreneurial spirit!

HALLOWEEN DANCE GRADES K-6

Announcement from Parent Council

SAVE THE DATE: October 22nd 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Entrance Fee: \$5 per student; parents free or by donation, under 4 free.

Important: Kindergarten to Grade 6 students must have a parent or guardian present.



This is a volunteer-run fundraising event, and all proceeds will go directly toward supporting classroom initiatives at J.R. Reid. Costumes are welcome! Please ensure they are safe and school-appropriate, following the guidelines outlined in the Halloween article.

To volunteer: Please email Tiara at tiaradawnelton@hotmail.com



ALL AGES EVENT

Announcement from Parent Council

Spooky fun that feeds our neighbours by our neighbors.

The Mitchel Family has done it again! Cedar Hollow Scare Away Hunger is a Halloween haunted house right in our school catchment, powered by food-bank donations.

With different scare-level days, there's something for every age—from gentle chills for younger kids to bigger thrills for teens.

Bring a non-perishable item, walk the haunt, and help stock shelves for families who need it most.

Dates and times are listed on the calendar (back page).

You can also follow them on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) for updates.

Visit our school website for current information: <https://www.bsd.ca/jrreid>

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204-729-3955



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Parent Council
Facebook Updates



Volunteer Opportunities:



Halloween Dance

Contact: Tiara

tiaradawnelton@hotmail.com

OCTOBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Truth & Reconciliation Week Sept 28 - Oct 3 *Scare Away Hunger* Located on Cedar Bay admission is a food bank donation			1	2	3
4	5 PD Day (K-12) NO SCHOOL	6 Picture Re-take Day 	7	8  Brandon Fire Olympics [Four Gr 8 students will participate in a five station obstacle course alongside local celebrity participants] 	9	10
11	12 Thanksgiving Day  NO SCHOOL 	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Val Caldwell FREE Social Media Parent Information Event Meadows 6 - 8 pm    	22 Halloween Dance (K-6) 6 - 7:30 pm 	23 MTS PD Day (K-12) NO SCHOOL *Scare Away Hunger 6-9pm [full scare]	24 *Scare Away Hunger 2-5pm [mid-level scare] 6-9pm [full scare]
25 *Scare Away Hunger 12-5pm [no scare] 6-9pm [full scare]	26	27	28 Parent Council Virtual 7-8 pm BSD School Trustee Elections Visit brandon.ca/votes for more info	29	30 *Scare Away Hunger 6-9pm [full scare]	31 *Scare Away Hunger 2-5pm [mid-level scare] 6-9pm [full scare]